PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q85162

Shigeo SHIRAKURA

Appln. No.: Based on PCT/JP03/07538

Confirmation No.: Unknown Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: December 13, 2004 Examiner: Unknown

For: NO_X REMOVAL CATALYST MANAGEMENT UNIT FOR NO_X REMOVAL APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MANAGING NO_X REMOVAL CATALYST

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98</u>

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

A copy of an International Search Report in a counterpart application is submitted herewith. The USPTO should receive copies of the references cited in the International Search Report from the International Bureau. Applicant will furnish any missing references upon request.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action

10/517665 Rec'd PCT/PTO 13 DEC 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT U.S. Appln. No.: Based on PCT/JP03/07538

on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (International Search Report for PCT/JP03/07538 dated September 9, 2003), together with an English-language version if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Abraham J. Rosner

Registration No. 33,276

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

Telephone: (202) 293-7060

Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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Date: December 13, 2004

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Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO	Complete if Known 1/009			
Substitute for Portin 1447 A & B/1 10	Application Number	Based on PCT/JP03/07538		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Confirmation Number	Unknown		
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Filing Date	December 13, 2004		
	First Named Inventor	Shigeo SHIRAKURA		
(use as many sheets as necessary)	Art Unit	Unknown Unknown		
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Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number	Q85162		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*		Document N	lumber			
	Cite No.1	Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	
		US				
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Examiner Cite Initials* No.1	Fo	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or	Translation ⁶	
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Translation
		JP	7-47108	B2	05-24-1995	Kyushu Electric Power Co., Inc.	
l		JP	10-109018	A	04-28-1998	Babcock-Hitachi Kabushiki Kaisha	
							
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		International Search Report for PCT/JP03/07538 dated September 9, 2003	
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Examiner Signa	ture		 Date Considered	L	

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ³Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.